

The Jane Dillon House
Easton, Connecticut

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Connecticut

Historic American Buildings Survey
Harold H. Davis, District Officer
29 Whitney Ave., New Haven, Conn.

THE JANE DILLON HOUSE

Easton, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Sources of information: Conversation with old residents
of Easton.

Town records of Easton and Weston.

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Approved:

Harold H. Davis. Date: *Aug 31, 1939.*

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On Rock House Road in Easton, Connecticut there stands a most picturesque saltbox house. It is the Jane Dillon House, and although it is very small, of the one and one-half story type, it, nevertheless, stands majestically as the sire of all the houses of northern Easton, which was in earlier times known as the North Fairfield Parish.

It is surrounded by a good share of historic rumors, but few have been basically verified. That Israel Putnam camped his men here during the Revolution and ordered the inhabitant of the house to use his oxen in cutting a path through the woods, or that an old cobbler resided here and made shoes for the Union Army during the Civil War are both rumors that have not been verified. However, Miss Dillon, the present owner, has among her possessions an old cobbler's bench which is supposedly the one used in this latter tale, and which belonged to Charles Beach who was a cobbler and who resided here. Even the building date is uncertain, but from architectural evidences a safe date would be about 1710.

After an investigation of the house it is not difficult to see that in its original form it was a three room end chimney salt-box with loft, the south end being added at a later date. There is a definite break in the roof to indicate where the south wall formerly stood. The posts in the attic still show the evidence where the exterior corner braces were mortised and tenoned into the posts.

The house has many interesting features. Worthy of note is the plainness of design, the low ceilings, the exposed posts and beams, and the vertical sheathing of the walls. The plain batten doors and the old style latches all are in perfect keeping with a house of such advanced age. The dormer windows as well as the few other alterations have not been too harsh on the status of this old building.

It is with regret that we note so much mystery shrouding this old homestead, but it is with gratitude that we find the house in such good condition, unspoiled by excessive alterations, and at present in such capable custody.

THE JANE DILLON HOUSE

Easton, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Owner: Miss Jane Dillon, Rock House Road, Easton, Conn.

Date of Erection: Circa 1710

Architect or Builder: Not known

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: One and one-half

Materials of Construction: Stone foundation
Exterior walls and roof wooden
shingles
Stone chimney

Other Existing Records: None known

List of Photographs:

1. South & West Elevations
2. South & East Elevations
3. East Room (Old Kitchen)
4. Stairs
5. Door Detail
6. Attic Detail
7. South Room